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LANGUAGE: Korean
READING TIME: 7 minutes

101 Must-Know Verbs to Boost Your Vocabulary

No matter what language you're learning, you need to be able to express what you're doing. Korean verbs are no exception.

But you may be surprised at how different Korean is from other romance languages!

Why? Because of [Korean culture](#) and sentence structure.

For example, Korean verbs don't have gender. Instead, Korean verbs match the subject. Instead, Korean verbs match the subject you're talking to and how much respect you have for them.

But more on that in a bit.

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(By the way, if you haven't yet, check out the [101 core Korean words](#) you need to know to understand about 50% of Korean.)

A note from the Fluent in 3 Months team before we get started: You can chat away in Korean for at least 15 minutes with the "Fluent in 3 Months" method. All it takes is 90 days. [Tap this link to find out more.](#)

101 Verbs In Korean to Boost Your Vocabulary

Our main focus today is first learning Korean verbs to boost our vocabulary. Because if we don't know any Korean verbs, we can't express much, right?

For ease of studying, I like to categorize similar words together so it's easier to memorize. So that's what I've done here.

Below is a list of 101 common Korean verbs you'll use every day, broken up into 7 categories based on daily activity.

14 Verbs Using Your Senses

- To see/watch: 보다 (boda)
- To talk/speak: 말하다 (mal hada)
- To ask: 묻다 (mudda)
- To answer: 대답하다 (daedab hada)
- To think: 생각하다 (saenggak hada)
- To sleep: 자다 (jada)
- To dream: 꿈꾸다 (kkumkuda)
- To make/create: 만들다 (mandeulda)
- To listen/hear: 듣다 (deutda)
- To play: 놀다 (nolda)
- To need: 필요하다 (pilyo hada)
- To be: 이다 (ida)
- To become: 되다 (doeda)
- To be able to do: 할수있다 (halsu-itda)

22 Essential Actions

- To do: 하다 (hada)
- To learn: 배우다 (baeuda)
- To study: 공부하다 (gongbu hada)
- To write: 쓰다 (sseuda)
- To read: 읽다 (ilkda)
- To work: 일하다 (ilhada)
- To teach: 가르치다 (galeuchida)
- To give: 주다 (juda)
- To receive: 받다 (batda)
- To clean: 청소하다 (cheongso hada)
- To wash: 씻다 (shidta)
- To call (on the phone): 전화하다 (jeonhwa hada)
- To have: 있다 (itda)
- To not have: 없다 (eobda)
- To finish: 끝나다 (kkeutnada)
- To know: 알다 (alda)
- To practice: 연습하다 (yeonsub hada)
- To take (a photo): 찍다 (jjikda)
- To take (to carry): 가져다 (gajeogoda)
- To draw/paint: 그리다 (geulida)
- To put: 놓다 (nolda)

22 Movement Verbs

- To come: 오다 (oda)
- To go: 가다 (gada)
- To walk: 걸다 (geotda)
- To sit: 앉다 (anjda)
- To wake up: 일어나 (ileona)
- To dance: 춤추다 (chumchuda)
- To meet: 만나다 (mannada)
- To exercise: 운동하다 (undong hada)
- To drive: 운전하다 (unjeon hada)
- To ride: 타다 (tada)
- To open: 열다 (yeolda)
- To close: 닫다 (datda)
- To arrive: 도착하다 (dochak hada)
- To depart: 출발하다 (chulbal hada)
- To enter: 들어오다 (deuleooda)
- To exit: 나가다 (nagada)
- To wait: 기다리다 (gidalida)
- To stop: 그만하다 (geuman hada)
- To hurry: 서두르다 (seodureuda)
- To move: 움직이다 (umjik-ida)
- To return: 돌아오다 (doalooda)
- To travel: 여행하다 (yeohaeng hada)

10 Verbs for When You're Hungry

- To eat: 먹다 (meokda)
- To drink: 마시다 (masida)
- To cook: 요리하다 (yoli hada)
- To chop: 칠하다 (sseuda)
- To boil: 끓이다 (kkeulida)
- To fry: 볶다 (bokkda)
- To stir: 휘젓다 (hwijeotda)
- To grill/bake/roast: 굽다 (gubda)
- To mix: 섞다 (seokkda)
- To pour: 붓다 (butda)

5 Verbs for Getting Dressed

- To wear (a hat or glasses): 쓰다 (sseuda)
- To wear (shirt, pants, dress): 입다 (ipda)
- To wear (shoes or socks): 신다 (sinda)
- To undress: 벗다 (beotda)
- To change clothes: 갈아입다 (galaipda)

20 Verbs to Express Feelings

- To cry: 울다 (ulda)
- To like: 좋아하다 (joha hada)
- To dislike: 싫어하다 (silheo hada)
- To laugh: 웃다 (utda)
- To love: 사랑하다 (sangna hada)
- To fall in love: 사랑에 빠지다 (sorang-e ppajida)
- To promise: 약속하다 (yaksok hada)
- To worry: 걱정하다 (geokjeong hada)
- To marry: 결혼하다 (geulhun hada)
- To lie: 거짓말하다 (geojimal hada)
- To live: 살다 (salda)
- To die: 죽이다 (sikuda)
- To fight: 놀다 (nolda)
- To win: 이기다 (igida)
- To lose: 지다 (jida)
- To remember: 기억하다 (geosong hada)
- To decide: 결정하다 (gyeojeong hada)

8 Verbs for When You're Shopping

- To sell: 팔다 (pada)
- To order: 주문하다 (yumin hada)
- To help: 도와주다 (dowajuda)
- To send: 보내다 (nonaeda)
- To borrow: 빌리다 (bollida)
- To use: 사용하다 (sayong hada)

Using Your Verbs: Korean Sentence Order

If you're new to Korean grammar, then the first thing you need to know is that Korean sentence structure is different from that of English or romance languages.

In English, we use a subject-verb-object sentence structure, or SVO.

But in Korean, the order is subject-object-verb, or SOV. You'll always need to drop the subject, so we'll start here.

For example, the Korean verb for "to eat" is 먹다 (hada). In this case, it becomes 해요 (hao).

Let's use 먹다 (meokda, "to eat") as our first example. First, we drop the subject, 먹다 → 먹다 (hada).

Now we need to see what vowel is in the Hangeul block. In this case, it's ㅓ (eo).

So we add ㅓ at the end of the verb, so 먹어야 (meokeo yo).

Now let's try 가다 (gada, "to go") instead. In this case, it just becomes ㅓ because the Hangeul block already ends in ㅓ.

Another example is 하다 (hada). As I mentioned, it changes to 해요 (hao) because the vowel is the same.

So another example is 오다 (oda, "to come"). As I mentioned, it changes to 와요 (wa) because the vowel is the same.

Another example is 듣다 (deutda, "to listen"). As I mentioned, it changes to 듣어요 (deutteo yo) because the vowel is the same.

Another example is 드는다 (dendeunda, "to drink"). As I mentioned, it changes to 드세요 (deseo yo) because the vowel is the same.

Another example is 머물다 (mumjulda, "to stay"). As I mentioned, it changes to 머물어요 (mumjuleo yo) because the vowel is the same.

Another example is 먹어야 (meokeo yo). As I mentioned, it changes to 먹어야 해요 (meokeo yo hae yo) because the vowel is the same.

Another example is 듣어야 (deutteo yo). As I mentioned, it changes to 듣어야 해요 (deutteo yo hae yo) because the vowel is the same.

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